

INTIMATIONS

NEW SHIPMENT OF VICTOR-VICTROLAS AND VICTOR RECORDS

RECEIVED BY THE

S.S. "KARIMOEN,"

INCLUDING ALL THE LATEST SUCCESSES.

S. MOUTRIE & CO., LTD.,

EXCLUSIVE AGENTS.

Hongkong, 27th May, 1916.



THE "SWAN" FOUNTPEN.

NEEDS NO "COAXING"!

It's made right
To write right.
That's why it's the most popular
Fountainpen.

Does not Leak, Scratch or Dry Up.
Fitted with Gold Iridium Tipped Nib.
WHERE IS YOURS?

TRY ONE NOW!

Sold by
JEWELLERS, STATIONERS AND IMPORTERS.
MABIE, TODD & Co.,
Manufacturers, LONDON.

CATALOGUE FREE!

THE HONGKONG WEEKLY PRESS & CHINA OVERLAND TRADE REPORT
is now ready and contains—
Far Eastern News.
Hongkong.
Far Eastern Men and the War.
Hongkong's New Medical Officer.
Garments from Hongkong.
Local Sports.
Queen's College A.D.C.
Leading Articles—
Australia and the Far East.
Colonial Reformation.
The Political Situation in China.
The Celebration of Empire Day.
The State and Religion in China.
Random Reflections.
The Colony's Finance.
Company Meetings and Reports—
The Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.
Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.
China and Manila Steamship Co.
Peak Tramways Co., Ltd.
Responsibility of Banks as Mortgagees.
Hongkong's Congested Litigation.
Canton-Hankow Railway Project.
Correspondence—
The Indo-China Meeting.
Is Hongkong Musical?
Sun Yat-sen and the Crisis.
Double Murder in Shanghai.
Run on a Chinese Bank at Shanghai.
Disturbance in Shantung.
Formosa Letter.
Shameless Notes.
Peking Notes.
Macao.
The Recent Shipping Strike.
Copper-Mining in Korea.
Singapore's Contribution to the Empire's Air Fleet.
Europeans' Gallant Rescue Work.
Round the World by Motor-Boat.
British Business with Chinese.
Passenger List.
Shipping Notes.
The Law Courts.
Collision in China Sea.
Employee's Claim for a Passage Home.
Empire Day in Hongkong.
Hongkong Wedding.
Japanese Cotton Spinning in 1915.
Commercial.

Extra Copies 30 cents each. Cash.
Copies can be posted from this Office
to addresses sent; including postage 24
cents each.
\$1 Cash for three copies.
Subscription: \$12 per annum, payable
in advance; postage extra.
Hongkong, 27th May, 1916.

ON SALE

A TABLE OF THE
RATES OF EXCHANGE AT BOMBAY
For Demand Drafts on London on the day
of or preceding the departure of the
English Mails; also Table of the
Weekly Approximate Average
for 20 years.
From 1874 to 1909.

PRICE 25 CENTS.

On Sale to the Daily Press Office at
Local Bookellers.

BEER!



ASAHI!



OBTAINABLE EVERYWHERE.

SOLE AGENTS:
MITSU BUSSAN KAISHA
HONGKONG.

102 HOUSE STREET, TEL. 230-155.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

TO-DAY
2.45 p.m.—Second Gymkhana Meeting at the
Race Course, Happy Valley.

Monday, 29th May—
11 a.m.—Auction of Sundry Ship's Gear and
Furniture at the T.K.K.'s Godown
& afterwards at Messrs. H. Skott & Co.'s
Godown, Kennedy Town, by Mr.
Geo. P. Lamont.

Wednesday, 31st May—
11 a.m.—Auction of Sundry Ship's Gear and
Furniture at the T.K.K.'s Godown
& afterwards at Messrs. H. Skott & Co.'s
Godown, Kennedy Town, by Mr.
Geo. P. Lamont.

Thursday, 1st June—
None—Star Ferry Co., Ltd. Eighteenth
Ordinary Annual Meeting at the Office
of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.

Monday, 5th June—
5.30 p.m.—The Royal Hongkong Golf Club
Extraordinary General Meeting at the
Club House, Happy Valley.

ITALIAN IDEALS.

ENTHUSIASM FOR ALLIES IN THE CHAMBER.

The Chamber last month discussed the Estimates for the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Baron Sonnino reviewed Italian relations with Greece and Rumania, and renewed the assurance of Italy's adherence to the declaration of the Powers only to conclude a peace which would guarantee the complete restoration of Belgium. He greeted the entrance of Portugal into the ranks of the Allies, and rejoiced at the Russian victory at Erzerum. After a reference to the cordial welcome given in Rome to Mr. Briand and later to Mr. Asquith, he said that the conference at Paris on March 27th and 28th above all gave to public opinion throughout the world a sure proof of closer alliance.

The battle of Verdun, he declared, constituted a remarkable success for the French, which had caused the failure of the enemy's aim to create discouragement, and asserted that the situation on the French front and the success of the Russians in Armenia had completed and confirmed the moral effect of the Allies' meeting in Paris. He could not specify the agreements reached in Paris, but it was sufficient to state that the full solidarity of the Allies which had been proclaimed at the conference in London in November had been confirmed there. The Economic Conference which would shortly be held in Paris would have for its object the realization in the economic domain of solidarity in the aims and interests of the Allies.

He concluded by saying that their object was to fight with all their might for the common cause, safeguarding at the same time the supreme and vital interests of the nation. They were fighting in order to obtain a victory which would assure an era of peace and concordance, such as their adversaries desired, but of justice and liberty for all peoples. They would still assuredly have to bear very severe trials, but with the mutual and cordial co-operation existing between the Allies, with the heroic exploits of the Italian forces by land and sea, with the complete internal harmony of the country, with minds cemented by the fervent patriotism of all parties, they would meet the future with confidence in the radiant future that awaited Italy.

Replying to various speakers Baron Sonnino said as regarded the legal position in North Epirus following recent events, he was assured that the Greek Government had formally recognized that the occupation of this region was of a purely temporary character and for purposes of policing and not of conquest. Greece also recognized today the decisions of the Ambassadors' Conference relative to Albania.

The crowded House and the occupants of the galleries followed Baron Sonnino's statement with close attention, punctuating his observations with repeated cheers. When he referred to the restoration of Belgium the whole of the members rose to their feet and cried "Long live Belgium." The passages referring to Russia and the visits to Italy of the French Ministers and Mr. Asquith evoked lively demonstrations and cries of "Long live Russia," "Long live France," "Long live England." The reference to the battle of Verdun was the occasion of another outburst and cries of "Long live France."

Signor Cappa (Republican) said, at the moment when a great drama was being enacted in Europe, the necessity for discipline, labour and sacrifice was imposed on everybody. In face of an aggressive German militarism everybody understood that all party questions should give way to united efforts for victory. There was a single programme and a common duty for all—namely, to conquer.

This speech aroused great enthusiasm. A vote of confidence in the Government was adopted by 352 votes to 36, the result being received with prolonged cheers.

The Chamber passed the Estimates of the Ministry by 307 votes to 40, and then adjourned till June 8th.

PEACE IN AUTUMN.

The *Welt am Montag*, a widely circulated weekly Berlin journal, publishes an article headed "Peace in Autumn," in which the following passage occurs: "The great Council recently held in Paris, according to the unanimous reports of British, French and neutral newspapers, not only decided to exercise a sharper pressure on neutral trade, but to prosecute a co-ordinated attack on all fronts with all the means at their disposal. We have a right to be somewhat sceptical with regard to these reports. 'Wolf, Wolf!' has been cried too often. But this time we expect something. In the nature of the case, and under existing circumstances, the English troops must soon come into action, and the noticeable silence prevailing on this point strengthens our belief."

"The Conference at Paris," says the journal, "and the speech on peace conditions delivered recently by the Chancellor lead us to suppose that we stand before the decisive last phase of the war. We must brace ourselves up for a last attempt, especially of our Western enemies, also, perhaps, for an advance of the armies at Salonika. Should it really be true what is said about the enemy Conference at Paris, we may reckon that the summer will bring with it the military decision and the preliminary conditions of peace."

A calculation of the average age of a number of the chief British, French, and German generals shows that the average age of the British generals is 63, of the French 60; and of the Germans 62. If young Royal generals, like the Crown Princes of Germany and of Bavaria, were omitted from the German list, the average age of the Germans would be 63.

EGYPT'S DEFENCES.

FORTRESSES IN THE SANDS.
WAITING FOR THE TURK.

All the German intrigue in Turkey has not succeeded in getting the Ottoman army to attempt to hold up traffic on the Suez Canal this season. The Turk is sitting still, or, at least, marking time, but the Egyptian Expeditionary Force pushes forward, and has made the Canal so secure that passengers to the East may sleep as soundly in their state-rooms as in the piping times of peace. The works have been continued at a speed highly creditable to the troops, and while the big defences are being completed positions are being taken up so far out in the desert that there is not much chance of the enemy having the limited satisfaction of casting longing eyes on the waterway. A vast system of road and railway communication, as well as of animal transport, is in being, and deep across the eastern side of the Canal, where voyagers were accustomed to look over miles of sand, trembling under the blistering rays of the sun, with scarce a palm tree to relieve a picture of utter desolation, one sees the civilising influence of military hands. A few months have indeed wrought a wondrous change. Late last year a post here and there on the canal banks seemed to indicate that the highway of the world's ships was to be defended on the way. No one was to be depended on to-day. Scan the horizon with your glasses and you can pick up evidence that a long way ahead towards the enemy's base an army is making great efforts.

White stone roads are covered with fine sand, and are indistinguishable till motor-lorries raise clouds of powdered limestone, the rail tracks are visible only when an engine scarily bigger than a toy winds its load of tiny trucks from bank to railroad, and you get another sign of activity when a camel convey, moving at a slow, unerring pace, shows itself black against the yellow background. But passengers are always seeing these things, and they go to tell the people of distant parts how security is being purchased at the price of much human effort. The Army is making a good bargain for the Empire, but how sound the bargain is only those know who have been out there along the whole line won back for Egypt, the Empire, and civilisation. Having seen what is going forward, I believe if there ever is a battle for the Canal it will not be fought within sight of the banks.

Obviously, it is prudent to give even a general description of the military works which bring safety to Egypt and the link which allows the constant flow of commerce between the seas of East and West. But there are two places which the enemy knows we have occupied, or he must be a very dull fellow. The duties of the Prince of Wales recently took his Royal Highness to these two places in one day—a test of endurance about which the soldiers on duty in the neighbourhood have not ceased to talk. Olyn Moss, where the Prince spent some lunch is interesting, not merely for military reasons, but because of its historic associations. If tradition has not hopelessly misled later generations, here is the Elim of old and the Wells of Moses, where the great Lawgiver and the Children of Israel drank of the sweet waters after crossing the sea. "And they came to Elim, where there were twelve wells of water and three score and ten palm trees, and they encamped there by the waters." There are to-day the twelve wells to support the belief that Elim and Moss are one and the same place, and would be difficult to imagine so strange a phenomenon as two places in this desert with twelve wells. Anxious to obtain further corroboration, an Army chaplain counted the palms, and has declared the three score and ten are "all present." Possibly the palms tallied only the tops of the venerable trees, some of which suffered in last year's locust visitation, and allowed his eye to pass over the younger palms which add to the beauty of this refreshing oasis.

Of all the trenches in the Canal zone those of Olyn Moss are the most orderly. It is due to the soldierly tastes of other ranks to say this is because the sand hereabouts is wet, and there is no drift when the Khamsin blows. But Nature deals out her trials with an even hand, and here, when relieving the commander of sand difficulty, she gives him what other commanders sigh for and cannot get—water. There is water trouble at Moss. It comes just where it is not expected. Dig a hole at a low level and not a drop percolates into it. That is just where a trench is not wanted, on or about the ridge is where the ground must be opened. There, two spades deep, the water bubbles up with a formidable energy. The more drainage is arranged for the more copious is the flow. That necessitates a new device; but war has sharpened man's cunning, and the new scheme has much to recommend it.

A battalion of Indians, wonderful men who, coming from France a remnant of its former self, with a V.C. as proof of high soldierly qualities, have spent three months in making Moss impregnable. They have worked wonders, not merely where there was water trouble, but in other parts, about which I will be silent, and they are so modest they endeavour to hide their handiwork from inquisitive eyes. The Indians have sandbagged and excavated fire trench, communication trench, support trench, dug-out, and gun emplacement with infinite perseverance and skill. They have tunnelled under strata of rock to preserve the strongest of head cover. They hewed long and hard to cut through some which blunted pick and ruffled the temper, and then they sought the aid of the Territorial engineer, for whose short way with the obstinate crust of Mother Earth they have profound admiration. It is not less gratifying to hear the Territorial bestow warm praise on his Indian comrade. There is between them the bond of hard work equally well done. One will defend the honour of the other against all comers. But they do long for an opportunity to strafe the enemy together. When will he come? It is a question of second importance to "Will he come?"

(Continued on next column.)

HONGKONG VOLUNTEERS.

CORPS ORDERS BY LT.-COL. A. CHAPMAN, V.D.

JOINED:
1.—Pte. W. J. Dexter having joined is allotted Corps No. 2005 and posted to Scouts Company, No. 3 Section.

LEAVE:
2.—No. 1521 Pte. A. A. Claxton is granted leave of absence from 31st May, 1916, to 31st July, 1916.

No. 2003 Pte. Donnithorne is granted leave of absence from 26th May, 1916, to 26th June, 1916.

PARADES:
3.—Parades for to-day—
7.00 a.m. Signalling Section "A" and "B" Classes at Headquarters.
PARADES FOR NEXT WEEK.

Monday, 29th inst.:
7.00 and 8.00 a.m. Signalling Section "C" Class at Headquarters.

Tuesday, 30th inst.:
5.10 p.m. Centre Section M.G. Co. (Kowloon residents) M.G. drill at Kowloon Dock.

5.15 p.m. Centre Section M.G. Co. (Hongkong residents) M.G. drill at Headquarters. Right Section M.G. Co. at Headquarters. Recruits of all units: Squad drill at Headquarters under S.M. Higby.

5.30 p.m. Left Section M.G. Co.: M.G. drill at Headquarters. Signalling Section "A," "B" and "C" Classes at Headquarters. Mounted Section on Polo Ground under Staff Sgt. Talbot.

Wednesday, 31st inst.:
7 a.m. Signalling Section "C" Class at Headquarters.

5.10 p.m. Scouts Co. outside Law Courts and proceed by car 5.30 p.m. to Happy Valley for Company drill.

5.15 p.m. Civil Service Co. drill on Cricket Ground.

Thursday, 1st June:
5.15 p.m. Recruits of all units (except Right Section M.G. Co.) Squad drill at Headquarters under Sgt. Major Higby.

5.30 p.m. Signalling Section "A," "B" and "C" Classes at Headquarters. Mounted Section on Polo Ground under Staff Sgt. Talbot.

Friday, 2nd June:
5.30 p.m. Defaulters' drill at Headquarters under Co. Sgt. Major Wichee. Recruits Right Section M.G. Co.: Squad drill at Headquarters. Artillery Battery gun drill at Gun Club Hill. Sgt. Readly will attend H.K. members fall in 5 p.m. Star Ferry Wharf, Hongkong.

Saturday, 3rd June:
7 a.m. Signalling Section "A" and "B" Classes at Headquarters.

DETAIL:
4.—On guard to-night—Centre Section M.G. Company.
Next for duty 28th inst.—Civil Service Company.
Orderly Officer from 26th inst. to 1st June—Lieut. Murphy.

SIGNALLING SECTION.
Extra parades for next week:—
Sunday, 28th inst., 10 a.m.—"A" Class, Causeway Bay.

Tuesday, 30th inst., 5.30 p.m.—"A," "B" and "C" Classes at Causeway Bay instead of Headquarters.

Thursday, 1st June, 9 p.m.—"A" Class, Command Signalling practice at Headquarters. All members must attend.

A. F. CHURCHILL, Capt.,
Adjutant, H.K.V.O.

WILL THE ENEMY COME?
The Indians do six hours' hard labour a day, and troop off to that remarkable relaxation for tired soldiers—full-time football. Their matches are frequent. Inter-company competitions are interesting, but they lack the full flavour which comes of beating a regimental team. When I was with them the battalion awaited an answer from another Indian regiment to an invitation couched in true sporting language. The match would be arranged; the terms of the invitation admit of no doubt of that. The officers who form part of the team play the game, and just as they imitate the Tommy, who set the fashion of wearing a cigarette behind his ear, so they copy the white soldier's example on the football field.

Gebel Murr stands some ten miles north of Moss, a giant, stern sentinel guarding the approaches to the Canal on a far-flung line. It is the Gibraltar of the southern end of the zone, a mass of red stone as hard as granite, and with a surface polished by the sands drifted across it through the ages. With the assistance of fifty blasts a day arranged by skilful English miners and quarrymen, Indian soldiers have prepared that inhospitable top, and their officers are satisfied the fortress will stand the tests of war. An enemy marching westward must come through one of two passes, from which he would debouch in full view of Gebel Murr, who rears a head nearly 400ft. above the sand, yet looks low and unimposing compared with the jagged ridges of Gebel Baha away to the west. Through the slits of Raba the enemy must come forth. Even when the setting sun illumines with a delicate pink glow the rough saw-like ridge of that stony upland, Gebel Baha is forbidding. But the garrison of Gebel Murr wish for nothing better than to show the Turk and his Hun leaders that their desolate crevices are a Paradise to the ally; that awaits them on the rolling bosom of the desert; and Gebel Murr will take toll of any column that issues from the passes, and would welcome as soft music the bursting of high explosives against its face as a preparation for infantry attack. "Will he come?" Do not say he will not to anyone on Gebel Murr, or the monotony of months spent in carving rooms and underground passages in the toughest stone will be unbearably relieved. A hope which has almost become the prayer of the patriot. *The Times.*

VOLUNTEER RESERVES.

ORDERS BY MAJOR WAKEMAN, O.C. H.K.V.R.

DETAIL:
On duty till the morning of Friday, 2nd June—H.K.V.C.

Next for duty—"A" Co., H.K.V.R. Orderly Officer—Lieut. H. R. Hancock. PARADES FOR THIS WEEK ENDING 3RD JUNE. Monday, 29th inst.:

Recruits on the Cricket Ground under drill instructor Sgt. Osberry at 5.15 p.m. Dress: Drill order. Signalling Section at Volunteer Headquarters at 5.15 p.m. Dress: Clean fatigue.

Machine Gun Section at Wellington Barracks under instructor Sgt. Bowles at 5.30 p.m. Dress: Drill order.

N.C.O.s. class of instruction on the Cricket Ground at 5.15 p.m. Dress: Clean fatigue. Officers will attend.

Tuesday, 30th inst.:
"A" Co. on the road outside the Law Courts at 5.15 p.m. Dress: Drill order.

Mounted Section on the Polo Ground at 5.30 p.m. under instructor Staff Sgt. Talbot. Uniform to be worn.

Wednesday, 31st inst.:
Recruits on the Cricket Ground under drill instructor Sgt. Osberry at 5.15 p.m. Dress: Drill order. Signalling Section at Volunteer Headquarters at 5.15 p.m. Dress: Clean fatigue.

N.C.O.s. class of instruction on the Cricket Ground at 5.15 p.m. Dress: Clean fatigue. Officers will attend.

Thursday, 1st June:
Machine Gun Section at Wellington Barracks under instructor Sgt. Bowles at 5.30 p.m. Dress: Drill order.

Recruits on the Cricket Ground under drill instructor Sgt. Osberry at 5.15 p.m. Dress: Drill order. Mounted Section on the Polo Ground at 5.30 p.m. under instructor Staff Sgt. Talbot. Uniform to be worn.

Friday, 2nd June:
"B" Co. Kowloon Dock and Taikoo Section on the Polo Ground at 5.30 p.m. Remainder on the road outside the Law Courts at 5.15 p.m. Dress: Drill order.

Signalling Section at Volunteer Headquarters at 5.15 p.m. Dress: Clean fatigue.

Saturday, 3rd June, nil.
DRESS.

Belts need not be worn in walking-out dress during the summer months, viz., 16th April to 15th November, but khaki jackets will be worn everywhere and shirt sleeves are prohibited. Sticks or canes will be carried. Khaki jackets will be worn by guards and sentries in the summer. Riding breeches must not be worn at any parade except by Officers entitled to wear same and by Mounted Section. Stocking putties must not be worn on parade or on duty.

APPLICATION FOR LEAVE.
In future all applications for leave exceeding a month in duration must state—
(a.) What the purpose of the leave asked for is.
(b.) Whether the consent of the applicant's employer has been obtained.

HANDICAP.
Members of Co. "A" Sec. 1 (Old Organisation) will shoot for the above cup on Sunday, 28th inst., at King's Park Range, at 10 a.m.

SNAP SHOOTING.
200 yards, 5 rounds; 4 seconds exposure. RAPID SHOOTING.
200 yards, 15 rounds; 4 rounds in magazine, 1 in chamber, 10 in pouch; time allowed 75 seconds for short rifles, 90 seconds for long rifles. Conditions will be notified on the range. Ammunition provided.

G. K. H. EMMOTON, Capt.,
Adjutant, H.K.V.R.

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.
POLICE RESERVE ORCHESTRA.
The Orchestra will play at Government House on Monday evening, June 5th.

EQUIPMENT BOARD.
This Board will in future sit at 5.15 p.m. sharp. Sections and Units will attend as follows:

Monday, May 29th.—Band and Orchestra.
Tuesday, May 30th.—No. 7 Section.
Wednesday, May 31st.—No. 10 Section.
Thursday, June 1st.—Ambulance Co. Men will attend between the hours of 5.15 and 5.30 p.m.

MOUNTED PATROLS.
The following donations towards the running and equipment expenses of detachment for the year ending June 1917, are gratefully acknowledged:—
Messrs. Chan Chee, \$120; Cheu U Tin, \$120; Wong Kam Fook, \$80; Sin Tak Fan, \$80; Fung Ping Shan, \$80; Choy Cheung, \$10; Sun Co., Ltd., \$10; Kwok Lok, \$10; Yeung Shai Ngam, \$10.

ROUTE MARCH.
All ranks and units will parade at the Queen's Statue, Chater Road, on Friday, June 2nd, at 5.30 p.m. sharp. Helmets will be worn.

F. C. JENKIN,
D.S.P. (R).

Superstitious people are talking of a curious incident which happened at Nay, a little Egyptian village far from the noise of battle. Twice in the history of France the big church bell of Nay has fallen without being damaged. It fell from the belfry exactly three months before the Crimean war ended, and it fell from the belfry again three months before the end of the war of 1870. It has just fallen a third time, again without damage.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that inasmuch as it is desirable to Amend the Articles of Association providing for the payment of a Special Subscription by Non-playing Members and in certain other respects, an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Club will be held at the Club House, Happy Valley, on MONDAY, the 5th day of June, 1916, at 5.30 o'clock in the afternoon, when the Subjoined Resolutions will be proposed.

1. That article 18 of the articles of association of the Club be altered by adding after the word "Resident" in the first line the word "Playing" and after the word "and" in the same line the word "Non-playing."
2. That article 19 of the articles of association be struck out and the following article substituted:-
"The subscription for a Resident Playing Member shall be \$5 per month and for a Non-playing Member \$1 per month payable on the 1st day of each month in advance."
3. That article 24 of the articles of association be struck out and the following article substituted:-
"No member shall participate in any of the advantages of the Club or vote upon any question if he is liable to be posted under the Articles or By-laws of the Club for the time being in force."
4. That article 23 of the articles of association be altered by substituting the word "April" for "June" and "1916" for "1913" and "3" for "4" in the second line, by adding after the word "advance" in the third line "or such other sum as may from time to time be determined at a General Meeting of the Club" and adding at the end of the article "or such other sum as the committee may from time to time determine."
5. That article 37 be altered by adding after the word "Visitors" in the second line the words "not being residents in the Colony" and altering the figure "4" in the seventh line to the figure "5."

Any Resolutions which may be passed by the required majority will be submitted for confirmation as Special Resolutions to a Second Extraordinary Meeting which will be subsequently convened.

Dated the Twenty-Seventh day of May, 1916.
By Order of the Committee.
K. M. CUMMING,
Secretary.

FOR KOBE AND MOJI.

THE Steamship

"KATHLEEN"

will be despatched on or about the 5th June, taking cargo for KOBE AND MOJI.

For freight and other information apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 26th May, 1916.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Chartered Steamers
"SANGOLA"

FROM BOMBAY, COLOMBO AND STRAITS.

Consignees of Cargo by the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their goods are being landed and placed at various wharves in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godown at Kowloon, where each Consignment will be sorted out Mark by Mark and delivery can be obtained as the goods are landed.

This vessel brings on Cargo:-
From London, &c., ex "Khyber"
From Persian Gulf, ex ss. B. I. S. N.
and B. & P. S. N. Co.'s Steamers.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary within 6 hours.

Goods not cleared within 3 days including date of arrival will be subject to rent.
No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

Damaged packages must be left in the Godown for examination by the Consignees, and the Company's Surveyors, Messrs. GODDARD & DOUGLAS, at 10 A.M. on MONDAYS and THURSDAYS. All Claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognised. No Claims will be allowed after the Goods have left the Godown.

E. V. D. PARK,
Acting Superintendent.
Hongkong, 16th May, 1916.

NOTICE

WE HAVE This Day authorised Mr. ARCHIBALD OUR LANG to Sign the name of our Firm in Hongkong and China.

We have This Day authorised Mr. GEORGE MASON LAKIN to Sign the name of our Firm by Procuration in Hongkong and China.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.
Hongkong, 26th May, 1916.

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE.

G. FRIEN,
HILL, BERODAHN & CO.,
F. LORRIA
(In Liquidation).

CREDITORS are required to send in their Claims against the above to the Under-Signed, No. 5, Queen's Road Central, on or before WEDNESDAY, the 31st May, 1916.
Dated the 23rd May, 1916.
J. HENNESSEY SETH, A.S.A.
Liquidator.

INTIMATIONS

HONGKONG GYMKHANA CLUB.

THE SECOND GYMKHANA MEETING of the Season will be held at HAPPY VALLEY TO-DAY (SATURDAY), the 27th instant, commencing at 4.45 P.M.
The Charge of Admission will be \$1 for others than Members of the HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB or GYMKHANA CLUB.
Soldiers and Sailors in uniform Half-Price.
The Committee invite the Ladies of Hongkong to be present.
Hongkong, 24th May, 1916.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction,
On MONDAY, the 29th May, 1916, commencing at 11 A.M., at the Toyo Kisen Kaisha's Godown (and afterwards at Messrs. H. Scott & Co.'s Godown), Kennedy Town,
SUNDRY SHIP'S GEAR,
ex ss. "CHIVO MARU,"

Comprising:-
Steam Winches, Boat Davits, Brass port scuttles and frames, Brass Saloon window frames and windows, Electric Fans and Lamps, Copper whistle and siren, Brass signal gun, Engine Room telegraphs and compasses, Electric water-tight shutter box, Copper and Brass Steam Pipes, etc., etc., and
One Searchlight.

N.B.-Further sales will be notified later. On View from FRIDAY, the 26th inst. Catalogues on application.

TERMS:-Cash on delivery.
GEO. P. LAMMERT,
Auctioneer.
Hongkong, 26th May, 1916.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction,
On WEDNESDAY, the 31st May, 1916, commencing at 11 A.M., at the Toyo Kisen Kaisha's Godown (and afterwards at Messrs. H. Scott & Co.'s Godown), Kennedy Town,
SUNDRY SHIP'S GEAR AND FURNITURE,
ex ss. "CHIVO MARU,"

Comprising:-
Leather Covered Armchairs, Revolving Saloon Chairs on Iron Frames, Wooden Folding Chairs, Nickel-plated Brass 4-wheel Iron Bunk Frames and Mattresses, Patent Folding Washstands, Oak Writing and Centre Tables, Mirrors, Coloured Glass Windows, Mattresses, Rugs and Carpets, etc., etc.
On View from MONDAY, the 29th inst. Catalogues on application.

TERMS:-Cash on delivery.
GEO. P. LAMMERT,
Auctioneer.
Hongkong, 24th May, 1916.

FOR SALE.

ONE SET VERTICAL MARINE ENGINES, with three cylinders of 15 inches, 24 inches and 40 inches diameter, with Condenser and Pumps, complete. Also three bilge discharging boxes, one reducing valve, two discharge valves, one set double safety valves, one steam distributing valve chest with valves, one bulkhead flange for shaft, one main injection valve, and one spare condenser door, all having been formerly used in connection with the above-said engines. Built in 1904 and been in use only 14 months.

1,823 lbs.-Self-Hardening Steel.
1,577 lbs.-L. A. Turning Steel.
226 lbs.-Oval Chisel Steel.
2,296 lbs.-Round Punching or Turning Steel.

and
One hundred Kilos Metal Packing.
Open to Offers.

For further particulars, apply to:-
GEO. P. LAMMERT,
4, Duddell Street.

FOR SALE.

ONE 101 B.H.P. HORNSBY ACKROYD OIL ENGINE complete with and coupled direct to one 8 K.W. Continuous Current Shunt Wound Dynamo of 50/70 volts with shunt regulator.

Also ONE SWITCHBOARD for ACCUMULATORS, DYNAMO, &c. complete with instruments for 100 Amps.

For further particulars apply to:-
LINSTED & DAVIS,
Alexandra Buildings.

NOW ON SALE.

THE
DIRECTORY
AND

CHRONICLE

FOR CHINA, JAPAN, ETC..

FOR THE YEAR

1916.

INDISPENSABLE TO EVERY
BUSINESS MAN.

TO BE OBTAINED FROM THE-
HONGKONG DAILY PRESS OFFICE

and
LOCAL BOOKSELLERS.

1,750 PAGES-PRICE \$10.

The attention this year are unusually heavy owing to changes incidental to the War.

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET-FURNISHED.

NO. 5, THE PEAK, SIX ROOMS and Tennis Court. Within 10 minutes of Tram.
Apply-
H. A. LAMMERT.
[730]

TO LET.

OFFICES on 1st Floor, No. 9, Queen's Road Central (In Ice House Street).
Apply to-
WILKINSON & GRIFF.
691

TO LET.

OFFICES on 1st Floor, No. 3, Queen's Road Central, at present in the occupation of The China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.
Apply to-
CHINA FIRE INSURANCE Co., Ltd.
[623]

TO LET.

OFFICES in Prince's Building.
Apply to-
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
Liquidators,
RUTER, BROCKLEMAN & Co.
[672]

TO LET.

RAVENSHILL EAST, Park Road, containing 6 Rooms, 3 Bath Rooms, Servants' Quarters, &c. Vacant 1st November.
Apply-
DEACON, LOCKER, DEACON & HARBSTON.
[50]

TO LET.

A SMALL GODOWN in PRINCE'S BUILDING.
For particulars, etc., apply-
THE HONGKONG CENTRAL ESTATE, LTD.
[685]

TO LET.

From 1st May.
OFFICES, 2nd Floor, St. George's Building.
Apply to-
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.
[618]

TO LET.

NO. 4, DES VŒUX ROAD CENTRAL, First Floor.
THE COMMODIOUS DWELLING HOUSE, with Office, Servants' Quarters, etc., No. 14, BRAXATEL, CANTON, from 1st June, at present in the occupation of the Imperial Russian Consulate.
Apply to-
DAVID SARSOON & Co., Ltd.
[415]

TO LET.

A HOUSE in Kowloon Terrace.
Apply to-
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY Co., Ltd.
[37]

TO LET.

TWO ROOMED-FLATS in Nathan Road.

THREE-ROOMED FLATS in Humphrey's Buildings, Kowloon.

FOUR-ROOMED FLATS in May Road with every modern convenience, including English Bath and Kitchen Range, Hot Water and Water Carriage System. A few Flats specially designed to accommodate three bachelors at reasonable rentals. Immediate possession.

FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Gordon Terrace and Salisbury Avenue, Kowloon.

Apply to-
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd.
Alexandra Buildings
[692]

TO LET.

OFFICES at 2, Connaught Road.

HOUSE in CLIFTON GARDENS, Connaught Road.
No. 1, HILLSIDE, THE PEAK.
GODOWNS, at Wanchai.
Nos. 1 and 2, WEST END TERRACE, CANTON.

Apply to-
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY Co., Ltd.
[32]

CHILDREN OF FAR CATHAY.

A SOCIAL AND POLITICAL NOVEL OF ASIAN INTEREST.

By CHAS. J. HALCOMBE,
Formerly of the Imperial Chinese Customs Service, Author of "The Mystic Flowery Land," etc.

THE VOLUME, which consists of 401 Pages, and includes a Sketch Plan of historical interest showing the disposition of the Forces at the battle of Kowloon, is dedicated to Sir ROBERT HART, G.C.M.G., and Dr. A. REYNOLDS.

Its description of Chinese Social Customs and Superstitions, combined with the insight it gives into political conditions in China, makes "CHILDREN OF FAR CATHAY" an excellent volume for presentation to friends at home.

PRICE.....\$3.50.

To be obtained from Messrs. KELLY & WALES, Ltd., Messrs. BREWER & Co., or from the Printers and Publishers, the "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS" Office.

INTIMATION

JUST ARRIVED.

A FRESH CONSIGNMENT

GIN

SIR ROBERT

BURNETT & CO.'S

OLD TOM

AND

DRY.

A. S. WATSON &

CO., LTD.,

WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

HONGKONG AND CHINA.



ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

TELEPHONE 618.

DEATH.

WHITEWRIGHT.-By accident, on May 16th, ALFRED RUTHERFORD WHITEWRIGHT, aged twenty-six, and Lieut. Sherwood Foresters, late of Asiatic Petroleum Company, eldest son of Rev. J. S. and Mrs. Whitewright, Tsinanfu.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 102, DES VŒUX ROAD, C.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, 27th MAY, 1916

A SISYPHEAN TASK.

It was reported yesterday by Reuter's correspondent that, according to French opinion, the battle of Verdun is reaching the decisive point. Whether this opinion be correct or not is, however, a question of little importance. During the opening stages of Germany's great attack there were, it is true, anxious moments when it seemed questionable whether the French would be able to withstand the terrific onslaughts against their position. Since that time all doubts have been set at rest. After the concentration of huge forces and an incredible sacrifice of human life during more than three months of almost incessant fighting the Germans are scarcely any nearer to their objective than they were at the outset. It matters little, therefore, whether the battle is nearing its end or not. Whilst the Germans continue to lose two or three times as many men as the French, the Allies will be content. So long as the French can maintain their defensive line unbroken in its main characteristics the Allies can afford to wait for their turn, which must inevitably come, though it appear to be long-delayed. The Germans cannot relinquish their efforts. To do so would be an open confession of failure, and the General Staff are fully aware of the disastrous effects which would follow when the people began to realise the true position of affairs. That evil moment must be postponed as long as possible. The German people have been taught to look upon their armies as victorious on all fronts. When a check has been encountered in one quarter a diversion has been created in another so that failure

might be disguised and a continuous series of successes reported. When, in spite of all, peace seemed to be just as far off as ever, drooping spirits were revived by the assurance that one great effort, culminating in the fall of Verdun, would be sufficient to force the Allies to their knees. It was recognised that heavy sacrifices would have to be made, and, therefore, although there is evidence that, in spite of all attempts to keep the facts from them, the people are becoming restless and impatient at the prolonged delay in reaching a decision, the domestic situation may be controlled whilst it is possible to publish, with the aid of a little imagination, encouraging accounts of the army's progress. Consequently, that army dare not desert from the attack and admit that the sacrifices have been in vain. It is chained to its task by remorseless fate, and its leaders know that it is now fighting against time. This probably accounts for the renewed violence of the assaults. No doubt the original plan was to deal the French a blow that would stop the long promised offensive on the western front, and thus release forces for the purpose of opposing the Russians, when, in due season, they should commence their threatened advance. The plan has miscarried, and at any moment now General VON HINDENBURG may be calling for reserves to meet the oncoming tide from the eastern frontier. From what source such reserves can be drawn probably proved a subject of the gravest deliberation at the recent War Council summoned by the Kaiser. "The German situation," wrote the Military Correspondent of the Times a few weeks ago, "needs a desperate remedy, and this may be sought either by an attack upon us in France and Flanders or by the attempted invasion of the British Isles." Apparently, the Kaiser and his advisers have decided to bring up all the troops who can now be spared from other fronts to make one more desperate bid for Verdun. It was estimated that on Tuesday the Germans used two army corps on the left of the Meuse only in an attempt to turn the Mort Homme position from the east, while another message states that the Crown Prince "has recalled all available battalions and hurled them into the furnace, sacrificing Division after Division." By this means he has succeeded in retaking the ruins of Fort Douaumont, but this achievement is a mere episode in the gigantic struggle which will undergo other fluctuations." Here and there a point on the French line may be taken, but this is only to be expected when a purely defensive rôle is adopted by the Allies. While the general position remains unaltered the fighting, with its increasing ratio of enemy losses, can be viewed by the Allies with equanimity. In spite of these recent tremendous efforts by the Germans to bring this campaign to a successful conclusion the enemy on the left of the Meuse are still far from the main defences of Verdun, while on the right of the Meuse they are, if anything, in a less favourable position than at the end of February. The latest French Note frankly admits that the attacks have developed into a general battle between the two armies. The French, however, may be relied upon to uphold their glorious traditions, and as the Lord Mayor of London said recently, "in the time to come it will be one of the proudest boasts of every Frenchman who saw the war through to a finish if he is able to say that he fought at Verdun."

The P. & O. str. *Nyanza*, bringing passengers ex str. *Khyber* from London, Marseilles and Egypt, is expected to arrive at Hongkong about 5 a.m. on Tuesday next.

In the Bankruptcy Court yesterday, the Chee Sang firm were adjudged bankrupt and the Official Receiver appointed trustee. On the application of Mr. Shenton leave was given to withdraw the petition filed against the Cheong On bank.

A claim was brought in the Summary Court yesterday by E. E. Ellis, sharebroker, against W. Stewart, for \$769.94, money lent. Mr. M. J. D. Stephens, for the plaintiff, said that defendant was in Manila. He had had notice of the action, and was informed when it would be set down for hearing. Plaintiff said of the sum claimed two instalments of \$50 had been paid, and a letter was put in in which plaintiff admitted the debt and promised to discharge his liability as soon as possible. The case was adjourned to Chambers for proof of service.

H.E. the Governor will for the fourth time honour the Humphrey Bishop Company with his presence at to-night's performance.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Royal Hongkong Golf Club will be held in the Club House, Happy Valley, on Monday, June 6th, at 5.30 p.m. for the purpose of amending certain of the Articles of Association.

When the R. M. S. *Empress of Russia* left Shanghai for Japan and Vancouver on the 29th inst. she carried a record number of foreign passengers for this steamer. Amongst those leaving Shanghai on the boat were Mr. and Mrs. David Landale, who were bound for Japan.

Subject to audit, the General Managers and Consulting Committee of A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., will recommend at the annual meeting of shareholders to be held on 9th June, at noon, the payment of a dividend of 70 cents per share for the year 1915; that \$30,000 be written off for depreciation; to place \$10,000 to Reserve Fund; and to pay \$5,000 to the Staff Provident Fund.

At the annual rifle meeting of the Engineer Company of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps on the 21st inst., Lieut. C. D. Pearson presented Captain Godfrey with a silver flask as a little memento of his connection with the Company, and, while congratulating him upon his appointment to the S.V.C. staff, expressed the regret of the Company on losing their commanding officer.

Prosecuting a Chinese cyclist for riding his machine to the common danger, Inspector Gordon told Mr. F. A. Hazeland at the Magistracy yesterday that on Thursday evening he saw the defendant riding a bicycle in Nathan Road. He was sitting on the bicycle sideways, propelling the machine with one foot. He was swaying from one side to the other, and it was certainly dangerous to the public. When witness signalled to the man to stop, he had such little control over the machine that in getting off he fell on to the roadway. His Worship Nathan Road is absolutely dangerous. I think a fine of \$15, or one month's imprisonment in default, was imposed.

A Chinese hawk living at Kowloon City was returning from a business visit to Shatin when he was waylaid and attacked by two robbers, who gagged him with his own purse and girdle string, and tied him to a tree. They went away with \$2.50 belonging to the unfortunate man, who was rescued from his trying position about a quarter of an hour later by a farmer. The Kowloon City police were informed, and immediately set about the task of finding the robbers. It says much for their energy that on the following day two men, who, it is said, are identified as the robbers, were arrested. They appeared before the Magistrate yesterday, the case being adjourned. Inspector Grant prosecuted.

TYPHOON WARNING.

The following telegram was received by the American Consulate-General, Hongkong, from the Manila Observatory:-

11.30 a.m., May 26th.

The typhoon is crossing the Visayas Islands in the form of a shallow depression.

BIG STEAMER AFIRE.

EN ROUTE TO VLADIVOSTOK VIA HONGKONG.

The Hongkong office of the Bank Line, Ltd., have received telegraphic information that the American and Oriental Line steamer *Wesley*, 8,000 tons, took fire while on the way to Hongkong, and had been beached near Cape Varela, on the coast of Cochinchina. The steamer was on passage from America for Vladivostok via the Cape of Good Hope, and carried a general cargo, which, we understand, included war material.

The *David Gillies* with salvage and crew has been despatched to assistance of the ship.

It is a rather extraordinary coincidence that at about the same time last summer another steamer of the same line, and much the same size, was burned in the Pacific. This steamer was also on a voyage to Vladivostok from America via the Canal.

THE WAR.

GIGANTIC VERDUN STRUGGLE.

DOMINATING OPERATION OF WAR.

EFFORT TO SETTLE IRISH PROBLEM.

DR. WILSON AND PEACE MEDIATION.

ITALIANS RETIRE TO PRINCIPAL LINE.

FRANCO-BELGIAN FRONT.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

DESPERATE ATTACKS AGAINST DOUAUMONT. SMALL SUCCESS AFTER ENORMOUS LOSSES.

PARIS, May 25th.
3 a.m.

The evening communiqué says:—Infantry actions on the left of the Meuse continued east of Mort Homme. Our artillery several times stopped the enemy when the latter were attempting to de-houch from the village of Cumieres. A sharp counter-attack in the afternoon enabled us to re-capture the trenches on the southern edge of the village.

The bombardment on the right of the Meuse was re-doubled in the region of Fort Douaumont, against which the enemy made particularly desperate and furious attacks, conducted by two Bavarian Divisions, recently arrived on this front. Attacks succeeded one another throughout the day, and after several fruitless attempts and enormous losses the enemy succeeded in re-occupying the ruins of the fort, of which we held the immediate approaches.

A simultaneous attempt to outflank our positions at Caillette Wood completely failed under artillery and infantry fire. There was nothing important elsewhere.

ENEMY EFFORT TO TURN MORT HOMME.

ASTOUNDING RUSHES OF MASSED INFANTRY.

PARIS, May 25th.
12.40 p.m.

It is estimated that the Germans used two Army Corps on Tuesday on the left of the Meuse only in the attempt to turn the whole Mort Homme position from the east. There were astounding rushes of massed infantry, characterised by extraordinary determination, but they were unable to penetrate the curtain of shells or the screen of Maxims. It was the advent of the fire-fighters, who have recently been multiplied greatly, following the liberal use of gas and shells, that enabled the Germans at the close of the day to turn the French out of their position in the first line west of Mort Homme, but a counter-attack ejected them within half an hour.

The enemy assaulted repeatedly throughout the night between Mort Homme and the Meuse, and finally got to grips with the French in the ruined village of Cumieres, which was carried after prolonged bayonet and bomb fighting.

East of the Meuse, since the French re-entered Fort Douaumont, they have been fighting ceaselessly, driving the Germans, who were hanging stubbornly to every wall and dugout, northwards. A German counter-attack on the Fort on Tuesday night was directed from three sides simultaneously. An apparently unending stream of shells was followed by rushes from the west, east and north. The efforts were unavailing, except in the east, where the enemy gained a portion of the advanced trenches.

The situation generally may be summed up that the Germans on the left of the Meuse, despite their tremendous sacrifice of men and expenditure of shell, are still far from the main defences of Verdun, while on the right bank of the Meuse, though they reached the main defences on the 25th February, their progress has been backwards.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

SIGNIFICANCE OF VERDUN BATTLE.

IMPORTANT FRENCH NOTE.

PARIS, May 25th.

Perhaps the whole war hinges on the present phase of the Verdun battle. An important French Note this afternoon states frankly that it is now a general battle between the two armies, and adds: "It is possible that the present decisive period was opened not by the enemy's initiative but by the will of our higher command, for it was Wednesday's great attack which enabled us to retake Fort Douaumont, and this marked the beginning of the great battle."

The Crown Prince, wishing in view of his defeat to repair the injury done to his prestige, recalled all the available battalions and hurled them into the furnace, sacrificing Division after Division. He thus succeeded in retaking the ruins of Fort Douaumont, but his achievement is a mere episode in a gigantic struggle which will undergo other fluctuations.

What has happened in the last two days at Fort Douaumont it is impossible to describe. No language can do justice to the heroic deeds and the marvellous exploits of our soldiers, whose keenness is incomparable. The slopes at Fort Douaumont are covered with German corpses. The fact that the German losses are greater than ours is explained by the curtain of fire of the 75's, which are far more murderous than the Germans' preparatory bombardments. It is reported that fifty-seven trains full of wounded Germans have left for the interior of Germany.

FRENCH GAIN NEAR CUMIERES.

PARIS, May 25th.
5.30 p.m.

Fighting is still heavy at Verdun. Today's communiqué says there was an intense artillery duel on the Hill 304, Deadman, and Cumieres front.

French bombers progressed in the night time in the thickets eastward of Cumieres. A strong German attack gained a footing in one trench northward of Haudromont Quarries.

There was a continuous mutual and very violent bombardment in the Douaumont region.

SERIES OF ENEMY ATTACKS.

REPULSED WITH HEAVY LOSS.

PARIS, May 26th.
1.40 a.m.

The evening communiqué says:—On the left of the Meuse the activity of the enemy artillery increased in the day time against Hill 304.

The Germans on the right of the Meuse, after a furious bombardment, delivered a series of attacks at five o'clock in the afternoon between Haudromont Wood and Thiaumont Farm. All were repulsed with heavy loss, except at one point, where fractions of the enemy captured part of a trench.

The violent artillery duel continued in the Douaumont region.

A French pilot in a fight in the air fell a Fokker north of Vaux.

In a fight between two air squadrons in the Etain district two enemy machines were badly hit and compelled to land.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

HAND-TO-HAND FIGHTING ON BRITISH FRONT.

LONDON, May 25th.

General Sir Douglas Haig, in a communiqué says:—The situation at Vimy Ridge is unchanged. Small British parties pushed forward and engaged in hand-to-hand fighting. There was a heavy reciprocal bombardment to-day astride the Souchez River.

MINING ACTIVITY AT LOOS.

LONDON, May 26th.

General Sir Douglas Haig, in a communiqué, says:—There was considerable mining activity in our favour in the Loos salient last night. To-day there was reciprocal artillery activity at many points.

ITALIAN FRONT.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

THE AUSTRIAN OFFENSIVE.

WHOLE FRONT FIERCELY BOMBARDED.

ROME, May 25th.

A communiqué says:—Our whole front, on both banks of the Adige, and in the Laquoina valley was fiercely bombarded yesterday.

An enemy column which was attempting to advance in small parties from Lizana to Marco, was stopped by our artillery. An attack in the evening along Vallarsa, in the direction of Monte Dinezzo, was held by our troops.

There was the customary bombardment between Terragnolo and Astico.

The Italian evacuation of the upper basin of Posina and Astico was completed in a most orderly manner, and the troops are strengthening their positions on the protective line in the Arsiero basin. We destroyed the guns we found impossible to remove.

The enemy yesterday began a strong pressure on our positions east of Valdassa.

The retirement of the Italians in the Sugana Valley on the principal line of resistance began on the 22nd inst., and was still proceeding yesterday slowly and methodically.

HEAVY ENEMY LOSSES.

ITALIAN LINE STRENGTHENED.

ROME, May 26th.

A semi-official communiqué states that after inflicting the most bloody losses on the enemy in a week's fighting, the Italians have withdrawn to their principal line of defence, where they steadfastly await the renewal of attacks. Only one small section of the principal line has been evacuated, owing to the excessive proximity of enemy artillery and the precipitous nature of the ground behind, preventing successful resistance. This line has been reformed on the dominating heights in the rear.

FIERCE ATTACKS REPULSED.

ROME, May 26th.

A communiqué says there were mostly rifle and artillery duels, but the enemy fiercely attacked at several points, and were repulsed. They were pursued, after the failure of an attack on the Buole Pass, by the Italians, who captured a hill south-east of the Pass.

RUSSIAN FRONT.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

MINOR OPERATIONS.

PETROGRAD, May 25th.

A communiqué reports minor operations on all the fronts. A Turkish offensive was repulsed in the Mosul region. The communiqué, reporting the junction of the British and Russian forces in Mesopotamia, says the Cossacks arrived at the British Headquarters on the 22nd.

NAVAL ACTIVITIES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

MORE VESSELS SUNK.

LONDON, May 25th.

The following vessels have been sunk:—
Leranza (Italian).
Istros (Greek sailor).
Orcella (Italian steamer).
The Tereza (Italian) was damaged.

THE NEAR EAST.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

OPERATIONS IN EGYPT.

REPRISALS FOR PORT SAID RAID.

LONDON, May 25th.

A communiqué from Egypt states that in retaliation for the air attack on Port Said our aeroplanes dropped forty bombs on advanced posts at Rodhsalem, El Ramma, Birbayud, Birsalmah and Birsalmah, and did much damage, including the destruction of water-tanks at Rodhsalem. This upset the enemy's whole plan, as he greatly valued the water-tanks at Rodhsalem since our patrols destroyed the drilling plant at Jifjaifa. One machine, in returning had its tank holed with a bullet but descended beyond our lines, repaired the leak and returned safely.

Supplementary reports show that it was a German column which suffered from our aeroplane attack at Elarish on the 18th inst. Details of the naval bombardment at Elarish on the 18th inst. show that the accurate fire of the two monitors and a sloop was directed by seaplanes with much effect. The heavy guns of the monitors fired 34 shells, two of which hit a hangar and aerodrome. Most of the remainder burst on the tents and in the camp, scattering the enemy, who sought shelter in the palm groves on shore. The sloop stood in and searched the palm groves with salvoes. The bombardment lasted for two hours, and destroyed a strong fort and the town. The enemy were demoralised and did not attempt to reply.

MESOPOTAMIA CAMPAIGN. TURKISH COMMUNICATIONS UNDER FIRE. LONDON, May 25th.

General Sir Percy Lake reports that the enemy is still holding his positions on the left bank of the Tigris in the vicinity of Sanna-i-Yat. The British artillery, from the right bank, is maintaining an effective fire against the Turkish communications on the left bank.

GENERAL.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

RECRUITING IN INDIA.

"THE TIMES" AND COLONEL CHURCHILL'S SUGGESTION.

LONDON, May 25th.

The Times, commenting on Colonel Churchill's speech in the House of Commons on the 23rd, points out that recruiting in India had been surprisingly good. The journal emphasises the difficulty of offering the new units, and says there would probably be little difficulty in raising the rank and file to a dozen new Divisions, but asks, "would it be worth while?"

TRADING AFTER THE WAR.

IMPORTANCE OF PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT.

LONDON, May 25th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law said that the question of the Government's trade policy after the war was being carefully considered, though no representations had been officially made to him from the Dominions. He added that the Imperial Government was giving attention to the subject of preferential trading with the Dominions and the Allies, the importance of which the Government appreciated.

SIR ROGER CASEMENT.

A TRUE BILL.

LONDON, May 26th.

The Grand Jury have returned a true bill against Sir Roger Casement and his soldier accomplice, Bailey.

NEW PARLIAMENTARY REGISTER.

LONDON, May 25th.

The Local Government Board are preparing a Bill for the new Parliamentary Register to include a provision to record the votes of soldiers and sailors on active service.

EMPIRE-DAY CELEBRATION IN MOSCOW.

MOSCOW, May 25th.

The Russians joined the Britons in an enthusiastic celebration of Empire Day. Sir James and Lady Buchanan came specially from Petrograd to participate. The Archbishop, speaking at a banquet, emphasised the British Imperial ideal to secure equal rights and justice for all nations, and to protect the weak and oppressed, hence the whole-hearted support of the Dominions and Dependencies. He trusted that after the war they would be given a voice in the direction of the Imperial policy and that an Imperial trade policy would be elaborated.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

GOVERNMENT OF IRELAND. EFFORT AT "GREAT AND LASTING SETTLEMENT."

MR. LLOYD GEORGE AS MEDIATOR.

LONDON, May 25th.

The House of Commons was crowded to hear Mr. Asquith's eagerly-awaited statement on Ireland. Lord Wimborne (until recently Lord Lieutenant of Ireland) was a spectator in the Peers' Gallery.

The Premier affirmed that the primary duty of the Government was to restore order and prevent the recurrence of disorder. He rejected in the overwhelming evidence that the great bulk of the Irish nation were not in sympathy with the rebellion. Martial law continued as a precaution, but he hoped that its disappearance would be speedy and complete.

The composition of the Irish Executive must be temporarily provisional. There were two main impressions from his visit to Ireland, namely: firstly, the breakdown of the Irish Executive; secondly, the strength, depth, and universality of feeling in Ireland that now was an unique opportunity for a new departure and for a settlement of the problem. He emphasised that Irishmen of all creeds and classes had shed their blood for the Empire. It was inconceivable that a prospect of internecine strife after the war could be tolerated. It would mean a confession of bankruptcy not only of statesmanship but of patriotism. An agreement between the different interests and parties in Ireland was of paramount importance. Mr. Lloyd George, at the unanimous request of his colleagues, would devote his energy and power towards an agreement with the various parties. Mr. Asquith hoped and believed that his mission of peace and reconciliation, and, if possible unity, would be successful.

Mr. Asquith solemnly appealed to everyone to abstain from immediate discussion of Irish affairs, likely to prevent a great and lasting settlement. Mr. John Redmond said the appeal imposed a very severe test on the Irish Party, but he could not take the responsibility of not responding. If the Government's new step failed it would not be due to any unreasonableness on the part of the Nationalists (Cheers).

Mr. O'Brien concurred somewhat grudgingly, and Sir Edward Carson readily responded.

EVENTS IN IRELAND.

MAY BEAR GOOD FRUIT.

LONDON, May 25th.

Mr. John Redmond, speaking at a luncheon to the Premier of Queensland in the House of Commons, hoped that the result of events in Ireland would not only be good, but unexpectedly good, though he was unable to speak with any confidence.

THE IRISH COMMISSION.

EVIDENCE OF CHIEF OF CONSTABULARY.

LONDON, May 25th.

Giving evidence before the Irish Commission now sitting in Dublin, Colonel Sir Neville Chamberlain, K.C.B., C.V.O. (Inspector-General of the Royal Irish Constabulary) declared that he had reported on the seriousness of the Sinn Féinism, and made recommendations, but they had not been adopted.

ROYAL ASSENT TO COMPULSION BILL.

LONDON, May 25th.

The Royal Assent has been given to the Compulsion Bill, which consequently comes into force on the 24th June.

THE KING'S MESSAGE.

LONDON, May 25th.

H.M. the King has issued the following message to his people:—

"To enable the country to organise more effectively her military resources in the present great struggle for the cause of civilisation I have, acting on the advice of my Ministers, deemed it necessary to enrol every able-bodied man between the ages of 18 and 41."

"I desire to take this opportunity of expressing to my people my recognition and appreciation of the splendid patriotism they have displayed in raising by voluntary enlistment since the commencement of the war no less than 5,041,000 men. The effort is far surpassing that of any other nation in similar circumstances recorded in history, and will be a lasting source of pride to the future generations."

"I am confident that the magnificent spirit which has hitherto been sustained by my people through the trials of this terrible war, will inspire them to endure the additional sacrifice now imposed upon them, and will, with God's help, lead us and our Allies to a victory which will achieve the liberation of Europe."

THE SENSATIONAL SILVER DROP.

STATISTICAL POSITION VERY STRONG.

LONDON, May 25th.

Messrs. Montagu's report attributes the sensational fall in the price of silver to the coincidences of the absence of competition and the sudden eagerness of the Indian bazaar to sell not only small holdings in London but also considerable amounts for delivery weeks ahead. The latter are apparently bear operations. The report says that the statistical position of silver is very strong. The United States authorities estimate the production of the United States in 1915 at 67½ million ounces, as compared with 73½ million ounces in 1914.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

GERMANY SEEKING PEACE. HINT TO AMERICA.

LONDON, May 26th.

It is learned from an authoritative source that Germany has intimated to America that now is the opportune time for President Wilson to start peace mediation, but President Wilson is not likely to acquiesce.

WASHINGTON, May 26th.

Callers at White House discussed the situation with President Wilson. They state that the President's attitude toward the peace proposals is neutral. He can only intervene when the belligerents have reached a mutual understanding as to terms of settlement.

BELGIUM'S CHILDREN.

A BENEFIT DAY THROUGHOUT BRITISH EMPIRE.

LONDON, May 25th.

The National Committee for Relief in Belgium is arranging a Children's Day for Belgium throughout the Empire. The day fixed is July 10th, and they ask the children of every school to organise concerts, sports, and other entertainments and devote the proceeds to the children who remain in Belgium under German tyranny. A careful analysis indicates that 2,500,000 children up to the age of 16 are still in Belgium, the majority of whom are destitute. Through the neutral Commission they are provided with a daily ration, which is just enough to keep them alive. It is hoped that the children of South Africa, India, and the Crown Colonies, who have already done so much, will assist on the 10th July in frustrating Germany's systematic warfare on children.

Mr. Arthur Henderson, Minister of Education, sanctions the proposal in the English and Welsh Schools, and the High Commissioners and Agents-General have been asked to obtain the co-operation of their respective Governments. In view of the shortage of time, the National Committee hopes that all education and school authorities in the countries named will forthwith make arrangements so that the tribute of the British children throughout the Empire shall be worthy of the children of Belgium, who, despite oppression and the threat of starvation, remain loyal to King Albert.

ITALY'S DECLARATION OF WAR.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS.

ROME, May 25th.

The anniversary of the declaration of war was celebrated with fervent enthusiasm in Italy. The shops were closed and everywhere there were patriotic processions and a lavish display of the flags of the Allies.

KING'S ORDER TO NAVY AND ARMY.

ROME, May 25th.

His Majesty the King, in an Order to the Army and Navy, on the anniversary of the declaration of war, says:—"You have been victorious in a hundred battles, with the ideal of Italy in your heart, but more efforts and sacrifices are needed. The country supports you in your arduous task with warm affection and with admirable confidence and calm."

ITALIAN STATESMEN TO VISIT LONDON.

ROME, May 25th.

It is stated that Mr. Salandra and Baron Sonnino will go to London shortly to return Mr. Asquith's visit.

HOME TUFF AIRA GEMENTS.

RACE-GOERS' CONSUMPTION OF PETROL.

LONDON, May 25th.

The Times says that Mr. Runciman has definitely decided not to change the racing arrangements for the present season. The consumption of petrol by race-goers, owing to the abolition of railway facilities, is engaging the attention of the authorities.

The Board of Trade concludes that the supplies will not last the summer at the present rate of consumption, and drastic restrictions on pleasure motoring are prepared.

POLITICAL DEADLOCK IN CHINA.

UNABLE TO AGREE ON YUAN'S SUCCESSOR.

LONDON, May 25th.

The Times correspondent at Peking says that the political deadlock in China continues. The real difficulty is apparently the absence of agreement upon the successor to the Presidency. The so-called responsible Cabinet, formed a month ago, has already broken up. Brigandage is increasing and trade is much restricted. The financial position is daily becoming worse. Foreign interests are not menaced, however, and the administration has not collapsed.

INDEPENDENCE OF SZECHUAN.

SHANGHAI, May 25th.

The Independence of the Province of Szechuan was officially proclaimed on the 22nd inst.

BRITISH TO THE BACKBONE

"CHINA"
HONGKONG FOR
SAN FRANCISCO
YAKI AND HONOLULU.
T. 5-NOV. 11.
FIRST-CLASS PASSENGER
IMMEDIATE RATES.
"E.R. Freight and Passenger Agents,
a Buildings, Ice House Street.
(1935)

